Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission



Frequently Asked Questions

Capital Regional District | March 2023

What is the Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission (LCC)?

On October 15, 2022, qualified electors in the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area voted in favour of the CRD Board adopting <u>Bylaw 4507</u>, authorizing the establishment of the Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission (LCC). The LCC is a regional district commission with delegated authority over specified local services and comprised of elected, rather than appointed, membership. The purpose of this LCC is to broaden elected oversight and administration of certain Salt Spring Island local services, to ensure decision-making regarding these services is more locally transparent and reflective of the broader public interest. The LCC will consolidate governance of several local services currently overseen by individual commissions.

What level of authority is delegated to the LCC?

The creation of an LCC, with an elected membership, is the highest form of delegated commission in an electoral area under the *Local Government Act*. While the LCC will have a wide scope of authority over many island-wide local services, the LCC is still subject to the same restrictions as other commissions with respect to the powers granted solely to the CRD Regional Board.

The LCC will have administrative authority over the following SSI services:

- parks and recreation;
- transportation and transit;
- economic development;
- liquid waste disposal;
- street lighting;
- determination of compensation for livestock injury by dogs; and
- approval of grant-in-aid applications.

The LCC will also have an advisory role to review and recommend budgets for Salt Spring Island services that receive CRD funding such as the arts service, the public library service, and search and rescue.

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Who may run for LCC office?

A person who meets the following conditions may generally qualify for becoming a candidate in the upcoming LCC election.

- 18 years of age or older on general voting day (May 27, 2023);
- a Canadian citizen;
- a resident of British Columbia for at least six months immediately before filing nomination documents; and
- not disqualified under the *Local Government Act* or any other enactment from voting in an election in British Columbia or from being nominated for, being elected to or the holding office, or be otherwise disqualified by law.

A virtual information meeting is being scheduled on **March 30, 2023, from 1:00pm-2:00pm** to orient potential candidates on the role of the LCC, remuneration, time commitment, and other details.

What is the nomination process?

Prospective candidates for local office must be nominated by at least two eligible electors from the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area where the person is seeking election.

Nomination information packages will be available by late March for download on the CRD website at <u>www.crd.bc.ca/ssi-vote</u>. Nomination documentation will be accepted by way of an appointment only at the CRD SSI Administration offices at 108 – 121 McPhillips Avenue during the nomination period between **April 11 and April 21, 2023**. Review the nomination documents in full for a detailed outline of the process and requirements.

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What is the term of office?

Typically, LCC commissioners would serve a four-year term and elections by the community would take place at the same time as local general elections; however, with the LCC's first election occurring after the 2022 local general election, the term of office will be until October 2026 to coincide with the next election cycle.

What is the role of the Electoral Area Director and LCC Commissioner?

The Electoral Area Director will sit on the LCC and has one vote. By legislation, only the Electoral Area Director is entitled to sit and vote as a member of the CRD Board. On matters referred by the Board, the LCC can make recommendations to the Director; however, the LCC cannot limit the discretion of the Director on matters that are decided by the CRD Board.

The LCC will oversee, and exercise powers and duties as set out by bylaws in relation to Salt Spring Island services. Each Commissioner shall have one vote on all matters decided by the LCC. Annually, the LCC will chose a person to chair and vice chair from among itself by way of vote by secret ballot.

How and when is the new LCC appointed?

The LCC is composed of four elected individuals from the Salt Spring Island electoral area boundaries plus the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area Director.

An election is scheduled to take place on **May 27, 2023** to elect four members from the Salt Spring Island community. The first meeting of the LCC will be held on **June 19, 2023**. The newly elected members will be sworn into office and elect a chair and vice chair at that time.

Who does what during an election?

The CRD is responsible for running the Salt Spring Island LCC election and appointing a local Chief Election Officer and Deputy Chief Election Officers to run the election in compliance with legislation.

For more about the election process and legislation, visit <u>www.gov.bc.ca/localelections</u>.